COMING ATTRACTIONS

NUMBER 9 AUGUST, 1977

Superman Dollar Comic Features Longest Man of Steel Saga Ever!

The second day of August brings a special event in the history of the comic's first super-hero, as the SUPERMAN SPECTACULAR Dollar Comic reaches the newsstands. It is unique in that it is the longest Superman solo-story ever published in one magazine, a 63 pager written by Cary Bates (with an assist from Martin Pasko), drawn by Curt Swan and Vince Colletta, and edited by Julie Schwartz.

This story is certainly worthy of its epic proportions. It begins over 100 million years before the dawn of man, as the time-travelling Man of Steel attempts to halt the eruption of an underwater volcano that threatens the safety of the globe. In ending the menace, Superman is observed by a recently-transplanted alien race -- indeed, his actions serve to give these beings the powers of immortality. The Kryptonian returns to his time without ever seeing these strange beings.

Over the eons, these aliens begin to evolve a religion around their super-savior. Luthor learns of this worship and, teaming up with Brainiac, uses this knowledge to devise a scheme for crushing the Man of Steel once and for all.

This SUPERMAN SPECTACULAR is the precursor to Superman's fortieth anniversary year, which, of course, is 1978. DC will be honoring that anniversary with the much-awaited SUPERMAN #1 reprint, more original oversize comics, a special WORLD OF KRYPTON series in SHOWCASE, and other projects too numerous to mention at this time.

The SUPERMAN SPECTACULAR sports a cover by Jose Luis Garcia Lopez and Dick Giordano.

Super-Villains Special: Grodd Takes Over!

A special forty-eight page edition of THE SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS will be released August 30th. This special, written by Gerry Conway and drawn by Arv Jones and an as yet undetermined inker, will initiate a new storyline, as the situation with the Wizard is resolved in the regular book.

In this special, Gorilla Grodd decides the only chance super-villains have of defeating the various super-heroes is by teamwork, so he gathers Sinestro, Poison Ivy, Bizarro and The Angleman (an old Wonder Woman villain) to collectively murder The Flash, Green Lantern, Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman. In order to insure the team's loyalty, it is arranged that no one super-hero will actually "die" until all five heroes are killed.

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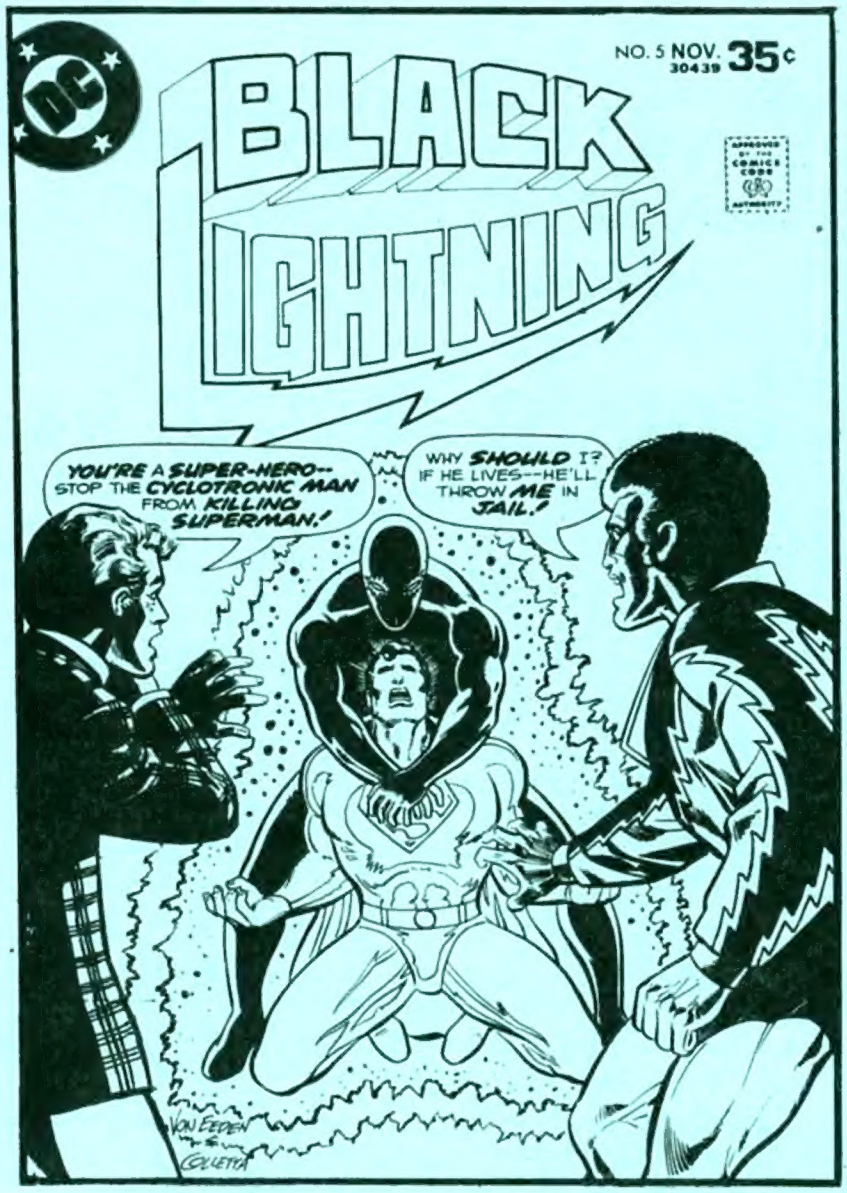
BLACK LIGHTNING
NO. 5 NOV. 30439 35¢
YOU'RE A SUPER-HERO-- STOP THE CYCLOTRONIC MAN FROM KILLING SUPERMAN!
WHY SHOULD I? IF HE LIVES--HE'LL THROW ME IN JAIL!
VON EEDEN
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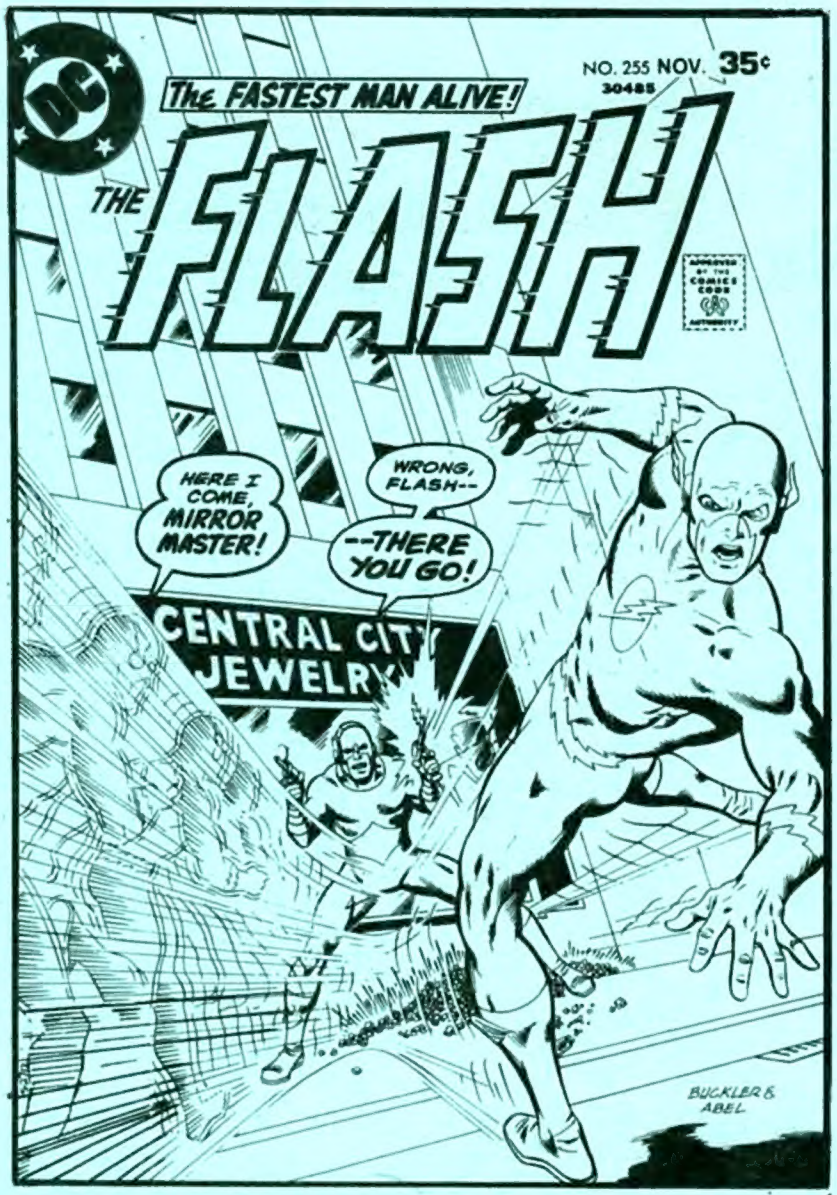


Bizarro, of course, is duped into joining the Secret Society by sound Bizarro-logic: the only way to show Superman how much you like him is to kill him.

Captain Comet, the Secret Society's nemesis, learns of this plot and takes up the challenge. The five above-named super-heroes guest-star in this issue.

The SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS SPECIAL was edited by Jack C. Harris.

Super-Stars Presents New Origins!

The seventeenth issue of DC SUPER-STARS features three all-new stories under a SECRET ORIGINS OF THE SUPER-HEROES theme. The first will be the complete origin of Green Arrow, gathering all the various scattered elements together for the first time. Denny O'Neil scripted this hallmark story, and Mike Grell and Vince Colletta provided the artwork. The second story features THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES' first case, as told by Jack C. Harris, Jose Ortiz and Vince Colletta; this tale incorporated the actual origin sequence as well.

The third story is the origin of a brand-new super-heroine, THE HUNTRESS (not to be confused with the super-villainess of the same name). The Huntress is the Earth-Two daughter of Bruce Wayne and Selina Kyle (Catwoman); in addition to revealing her origin, this story also explains why the Earth-Two Batman quit the crime-fighting business and why Bruce Wayne succeeded Commissioner Gordon as Gotham City's top cop. Paul Levitz created and wrote THE HUNTRESS, and Joe Staton and Bob Layton drew the story. The Huntress, by the way, joins the Jusitce Society in ALL-STAR #70 (on sale in October); don't be too surprised if she receives her own series in the not-too-distant future.

DC SUPER-STARS hits the newsstands August 25th.

"Speaking About Tabloids..."

One of the difficulties in providing this type of information so far in advance is that we must sometimes make changes along the way. Case in point:

Last month, we informed our readers about the SUPERMAN VS. WONDER WOMAN tabloid. Since that time, artist Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez took ill and was out of commission for nearly one month. It is likely this edition will be released late -- probably in early August. Seventy-two pages is a lot for one penciller, and losing a month will put any project of this sort behind schedule. However.....

DC Comics will be releasing the first in a new series of tabloids entitled THE BEST OF DC. This series, to be published more-or-less annually, will feature what the editors and staff of DC Comics feel to be the best stories ever published by the company. Whereas the release date for the first volume is not firm (mid-July, by present calculations), readers could look for the following material:

The Last Days of Superman, drawn by Curt Swan and George Klein,

The Night of the Reaper, a Batman story by Denny O'Neil, Neal Adams and Dick Giordano,

Doorway into the Unknown, a Flash story by John Broome, Carmine Infantino and Joe Giella,

The Demon Within, a House of Mystery story by Joe Orlando, John Albano and Jim Aparo,

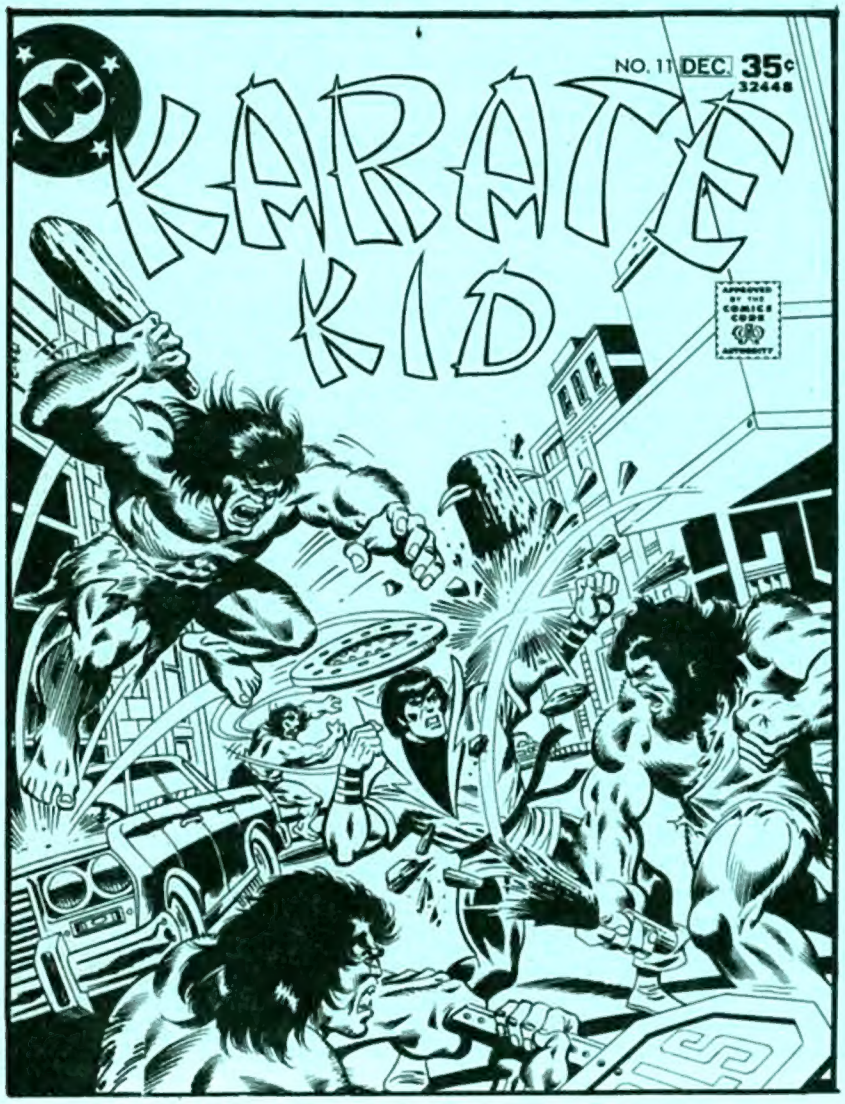
Dirty Job, an Our Army at War story by Bob Haney and Alex Toth, and

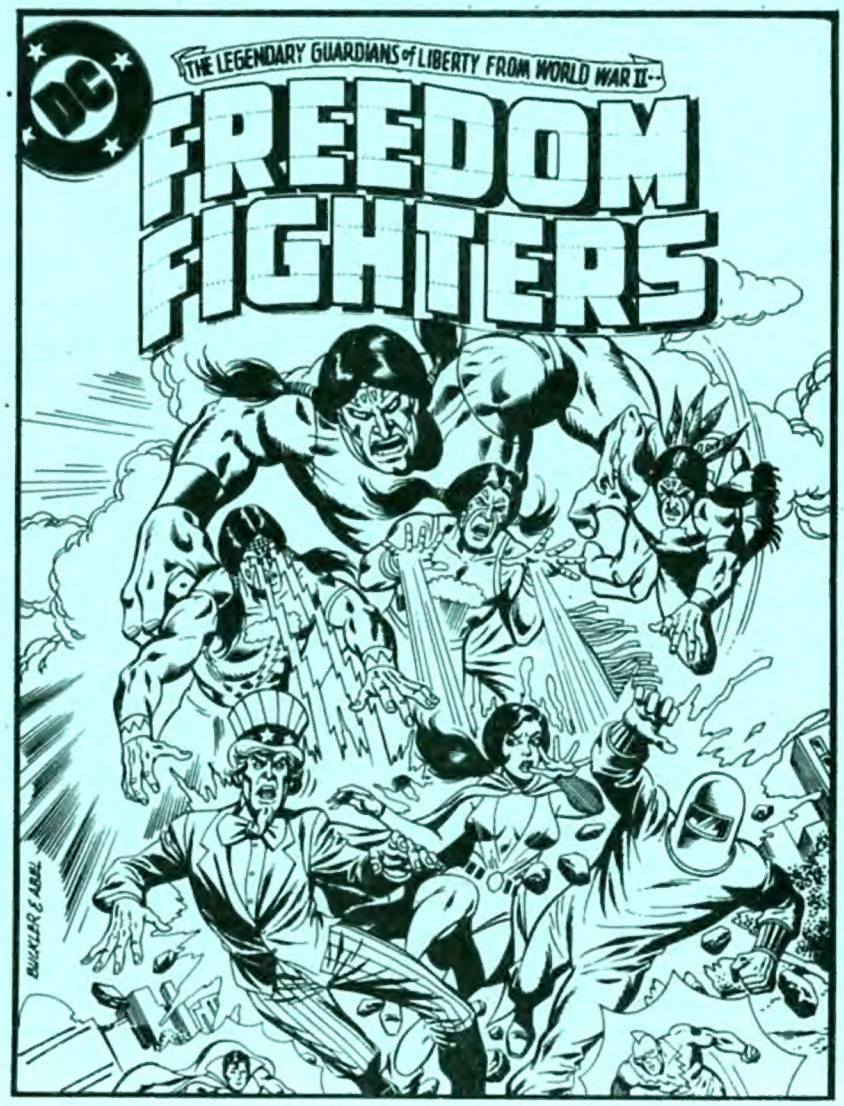
Firehair, from the Tomahawk series, by Joe Kubert.

Odd Items, Noteworthy News...

This month, an extremely truncated edition of Odd Items (things just aren't that odd, it seems):

SUPERMAN FAMILY #186 begins a two-part story wherein the Superman from Earth-One meets the Superman from Earth-Two...The concluding chapter to the Justice League / Justice Society / Legion of Super-Heroes epic is to be found in GIANT JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #148..."Where Were You The Night Batman Was Killed?" continues with the testimony of Lex Luthor, in BATMAN #293...BLACK LIGHTNING #5 co-stars that other Metropolis super-hero...The Origin of The Ray is included in FREEDOM FIGHTERS #11... The three part Enemy Ace story winds-up in MEN OF WAR #3, this month...





Shipping Information

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF JULY 11th:
Superman Spectacular Dollar Comic / Karate Kid #11 / Shazam! #32 / Jonah Hex #6 / Batman #293 / Giant Justice League of America #148

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF JULY 18th:
The Flash #255 / Weird War Tales #57 / Welcome Back, Kotter #7 / Ghosts #58 / Black Lightning #5 / Teen Titans #51 / Superman #317

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF JULY 25th:
Kung Fu Fighter #18 / Sgt. Rock #310 / Men of War #3 / Super Friends #8 / Freedom Fighters #11 / House of Mystery Dollar Comic #255 / Superman Family Dollar Comic #186

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 2nd:
All-Star Comics #69 / Weird Western Tales #43 / Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes (Giant) #233 / Brave and the Bold #138 / Our Fighting Forces #176 / DC Super-Stars (Secret Origins of Super-Heroes) #17 / Unknown Soldier #209 / Witching Hour #75 / Detective Comics #473

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9th:
Secret Society of Super-Villains Special / Action Comics #477 / Wonder Woman #237 / Adventure Comics #454 / The Unexpected #182 / Green Lantern - Green Arrow #98